[Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao.]

five or six years there were not enough rains in the country. Consequently, there was not enough supply of water in the dam for irrigating the lands under the Kodayar Project. Such a State of affairs naturally led to complaints from the ryots. Those complaints were only during the last five or six years. As a result of representations on this matter, Government were kind enough to grant reasonable remissions to the Nanjinad cultivators.

By reason of scarcity of water, certain lands were converted into garden lands. For such lands the rate of taxation was land tax plus seven rupees water cess per acre. The system of supplying water for purposes of irrigation rests with the P. W. D. authorities and the collection of tax is being done by the revenue authorities. It is not possible for the P. W. D. to say in what survey numbers particular lands lie and to what lands, water is urgently required. They are only responsible for the supply of water, and to control the supply. During my last circuit, I visited the lands in Neendakara and Cape Comorin pakuthies and found that they were some lands not fit for cultivation purposes on account of want of sufficient water. All the same, I cannot say, that all the lands were in need of water. In certain places, there was enough water for partial cultivation. Such of the ryots as were entitled to remission under rules were allowed such remissions.

Regarding the revision of rules, I submit that this very subject came up for discussion last time. I said that the matter would be looked into. Since then, I got the rules obtaining in Cochin, Mysore and Madras in respect of this matter. Unfortunately those rules do not go farther than ours. Their rules simply say that whenever lands lie fallow, such lands will get half remissions. Whereas in our place Government have sanctioned remissions and special remissions also. That is the position in Travancore.

PRESIDENT: The time allotted for discussion on the grant now elapses. The question before the House is that a grant of Rs. 58,88,962 be made under Demand XI—Public Works Department including Water Works and Drainage.

The motion was put and carried and the grant was made.

Motions Nos. 455 to 457.

The following motions were not moved, the time allotted for the Demand having expired:

DEMAND XII—ELECTRICITY AND TELEPHONE.

MR. K. P. P. MENON: Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 26,80,256 under Demand XII Electricity and Telephone.

The following motions were not moved and the Demand was passed and the grant made without discussion.

Motion No. 468.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED:

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 19,698 for Establishment by Rs. 10.

Motion No. 469.

MR. THAMARAPALLIL KOCHUTHOMMEN:

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 528 for Travelling Allowance by Re. 1.

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Motion No. 470.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR :
To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,48,500 for Quilon Electric Supply by Re. 1.

Motion No. 471.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER :
To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,50,000 for Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project by Rs. 10.

DEMAND XIV—AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR : Sir, I move for a grant of Rs. 2,32,262 under Demand XIV—Agriculture and Fisheries.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH : Sir, I move that the allotment of Rs. 3,900 for Director be reduced by Re. 1.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : Sir, on a point order. The object of the motion is not stated by the mover and so the motion is out of order.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH : Sir, It is not obligatory on any member to specify the object of his cut motion.

PRESIDENT : It is an understood convention to specify the object in moving token cuts in order that the honourable member who is in charge of defending the grant should be able to know what are the attacks which proceed from the mover or his supporters. If it is a general censure on the whole demand it is a different matter. So, if the honourable member intends to put forward a specific point of view, the general convention is that which is stated.

MR. K. DOMINIC JOSEPH : Sir, I wish to make my remarks on the general working of the Department. Sir, it is very gratifying to learn that the Government has decided on a reorientation of their agricultural policy. Hitherto a definiteness in the policy and programme of the Department was conspicuous by its absence. There has all along been a policy of drift running in the old groove. So much so, it was a matter of surprise on the part of the people why such a Department should be carried on at the expense of so much money. Now a revision in the policy is contemplated. The question is what shape this policy is to take. I submit, Sir, that if there is a definite programme before the Department it should be carried out to its very letter. Some definite period should be fixed for the working and completion of the programme. Then it could be said that the Department has justified its existence. Sir, I will suggest certain objectives to be placed before the Department.

My first suggestion is that the Department should set before it the ideal of achieving self-sufficiency in the matter of production of paddy. The desirability of achieving such an objective is beyond dispute. As to the method for carrying it out, I should like to make certain suggestions. It can be achieved by intensive cultivation, and by extending the area of cultivation. I do not intend for the time being to discuss about intensive cultivation. As for the other *viz.*, extensive cultivation, there are large tracts of Swampy lands in our State which are fi

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